

Amusements and Meetings To-Night.

THEATRE—“Alone” and “Black-eyed Susan.”
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—“Cymbeline.”
PARK THEATRE—“The Girl of the Year.”
GRAND OPERA—“The Bohemian Girl.”
WALLACK'S THEATRE—“Rosenda.”

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Day and Evening: Annual Exhibition.
BROOKLYN CATHEDRAL—Dr. J. G. Holland.
CHURCHING HALL—Ballad Concert. Miss Root.
HARVARD ROOMS—Church.
HALLS OF THE WOODS—Magical and Musical Performances.
NEW-YORK AQUARIUM—Day and Evening.

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Business Notices.

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This wine is perfectly pure, and contains about 10 per cent of carbonic acid gas, and is the only one that you can get without having your brains forced upon you, that pay a higher price.

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other means, and will accept their orders for THE TRIBUNE
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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

MONDAY, MAY 14, 1877.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—There has been a battle near Batum, in which victory is claimed by both the Russians and the Turks. The Russians are likely to cross the Danube in force above Rusek. The Russian forces are moving on Diarbekir as well as Erzerum. The Russian army has virtually declared war against Turkey. — M. Picard, the French statesman, is dead.

DOMESTIC.—Grave irregularities in the management of the New-York Custom-house have been discovered by the investigating committee. — Dr. Taylor Lewis, Professor in Union College, died on Friday. The postal union will include, after July 1, Japan, Brazil, and the Portuguese colonies.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The City of Brussels has been spoken, proceeding under sail with a broken shaft. — Campbell & Thayer's Lined Oil Works, in Brooklyn, were burned, with a loss of \$108,750. — Two ladies were killed through a runaway accident in Central Park. — The body of an unknown man was found in the East River, riddled with shot. — A trunk containing jewelry worth \$25,000 was stolen. — Tweed's early release is probable. — Mrs. Woodhull and Miss Claflin made a claim of \$100,000 on the Vanderbilt estate. — Gold, 107½, 107, 107½. — Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close, 93½ cents. — Stocks dull but generally higher, except for the coal stocks, closing feverish and unsettled.

THE WEATHER.—Tribune local observations indicate fair weather, with clouds toward night. Thermometer yesterday, 60°, 70°, 58°.

This promises to be an eventful week both in Asia Minor and on the Danube. In the former region the Russians are advancing steadily toward Diarbekir, an important town south of Erzerum, whence their forces might operate against the Armenian capital, as well as dominate a large tract of country. On the Danube the Russians are getting into position, and are likely to cross considerably above Rusek, and thus greatly embarrass the Turkish commander.

It will gratify citizens of New-York of all parties to see that the Republicans and Democrats of the Senate Apportionment Committee have agreed upon a bill giving New-York seven Senators and 25 Assemblymen, and Brooklyn three Senators and 13 Assemblymen, adding four Assemblymen to the quota of each city, and increasing the number of Senators by two and one respectively. New-York City has never been treated fairly in the matter of representation, and this bill, which improves upon the bill offered by the Republicans last year, is a pleasant concession to that effect.

What Mr. Adams thinks of Mr. Blaine and what Mr. Blaine thinks of Mr. Adams forms a lively chapter of political personalities in another column. Neither thinks quite so well of the other as the Country does, and both are largely blessed with the gift of saying straight forward what they do think. Mr. Blaine's letter has never hitherto been published, but it has been a good deal talked about, and its contents have come to be pretty well known in political circles. Mr. Blaine is doubtless quite responsible for what he says, but the gentleman to whom the letter was sent in December, 1875, is alone responsible for our opportunity to publish it.

Mr. Tweed has set an example which seems in a fair way to be followed. It may soon be as much the mode for Ring thieves to expose their accomplices as it was to shield them when Mr. Tweed set that fashion. There are definite rumors afloat that one of the parties to the infamous Safe Burglary conspiracy has made a statement of the whole plot and surrendered everything in the way of information that he had about him. It is a good fashion, which ought to result in making the United States Government and governments generally somewhat richer now and a good deal better hereafter. A series of careful biographies of the Whisky Ring, for instance, ought to do something handsome for the conscience fund and add largely to the general stock of interesting information. The Indian Ring, too, presents a fine field for a confession, and the District Ring could make the newspapers lively reading, if any member of it were so disposed. We sincerely commend the idea to ex-members of ex-Rings everywhere. They would at least

know that they had done the public one good turn.

The people of Washington are certainly making an extraordinary fuss over Mr. Fred. Douglass's lecture. It is generally admitted that he has performed the duties of his office acceptably; he ought not now to be removed because, in a lecture delivered in another city, he has ventured to criticize the City of Washington. Washington is a capital, or ought to be, and lecturers and writers are accustomed to discuss the characteristics and customs of the inhabitants of capitals without fearing that they may hurt the feelings of individuals. In these discussions there is always considerable generalizing, more or less brilliant, which may not always stand the test of quotation. The people of Washington could not well be more excited if a second British army were burning the Capitol, or a new Confederacy were marching across the Long Bridge. At this distance it looks as if some Maryland village had got into an unnecessary splinter. It will die out of itself, if President Hayes leaves it amiably alone.

In the strenuous efforts to reach an adjournment which will soon be made at Albany, several measures of importance are only too likely to be overlooked. Among these is Mr. Cowdin's bill to help the overtaxed banks, which only needs now the sanction of the Upper House. In an exceptionally intelligent Senate, it ought not to fail for the want of it. Mr. Cowdin has skillfully overcome in the Assembly the prejudices of a large and influential class of members, by a clear demonstration of the justice of the measure. If the vote of the Senate is cast on the same side, the banking capital of the banking center of the country will, in all probability, be relieved at least part of its load. It is a result worth trying for. Another measure which has been carried through the Assembly by great effort is the bill repealing the Parade Ground job. This is the first of many attempts that has achieved such success, and the Senate now has the opportunity to relieve us forever of one of the legacies of the Tweed Ring. It is asserted that a failure to pass the repealing act will involve the city in an expenditure of \$2,000,000. These bills are in the Senate; the Assembly, besides approving the Charter Commission's amendments, ought to secure the passage of the bills reorganizing the offices of Commissioner of Jurors and Coroner. All this legislation has made such good progress against such great odds that the work done must not be wasted.

PREPARING FOR RESUMPTION.

Very promptly it is announced that Secretary Sherman has adopted, as a means of preparing for specie resumption, the course which THE TRIBUNE recommended months ago to Secretary Bristow and Secretary Morrill, and which it has not hesitated to believe that Secretary Sherman, the author of the Resumption act, would find it advantageous to adopt. The Secretary has commenced the sale of 42 per cent bonds for gold, at the same time announcing that the gold thus received will be sold for legal tenders at his discretion. The practical effect is the same as the sale of bonds for legal tenders directly, but the mode adopted avoids all possible objection on the score of legality. The right to sell bonds for gold, in preparation for resumption, is expressly conferred by the act of 1875, and the power to sell gold for legal tenders has been repeatedly exercised and has never been disputed.

By some critics, who seem to be in favor of the Resumption act but opposed to its enforcement, it is objected that this procedure will only place at the disposal of the Secretary a large legal-tender balance, which there will be strong temptation to spend. But the Secretary cannot spend without an appropriation. And there is every reason to believe that no reckless appropriation of money by Congress, for the purpose of checking the movement toward resumption, could be passed by both houses, or, if passed, could escape an effective veto. Undoubtedly the Secretary moves in this matter with the full support of the President. If so, the veto power would certainly be employed to prevent any defeat of the Resumption act, either by direct repeal or by indirect exhaustion of the means accumulated by the Treasury. The position of parties is such that a veto probably could not be overcome, nor is it probable that either house could be brought to pass a bill known to be regarded by the President as hostile to resumption.

It is objected, also, that the legal tenders withdrawn from active circulation ought to be destroyed, to prevent a reissue of them. But the law does not definitely provide for any technical retirement and cancellation of legal tenders prior to Jan. 1, 1879, and, though it is held by some that the power exists, it would not be exercised without sharp challenge. Moreover, there is no reason for destroying the notes accumulated, and there is excellent reason for retaining in the Treasury a large balance which may, in any emergency, be employed to check any temporary stringency. It is conceivable, though not at all probable, that the gradual withdrawal of legal tenders may at some time occasion unnecessary and unreasonable pressure. The fear that such stringency might result, however unreasonable, would go far to produce it, and has, in fact, produced not inconsiderable difficulty at other times, when legal tenders were supposed to be rapidly retired. For example, ex-Secretary McCulloch showed in his letters to THE TRIBUNE that serious apprehensions and stringency were caused by the belief that the retirement of legal tenders was continuing at the rate of \$4,000,000 per month, though in reality no cancellation of notes was taking place, and the only change was a different entry on the Treasury books. There will be no occasion for such apprehensions, whether well or ill founded, if it is known that the legal tenders withdrawn from active use are merely stored in the Treasury vaults, and can at any time be exchanged for gold if a real emergency arises. The key of the whole plan is that the Secretary has ample power to accumulate either notes or coin, as a preparation for resumption, the accumulation of notes being at present, and in ordinary conditions of the market, the more effective.

It will be justly observed that the amount of bonds which it is now announced that the Secretary will sell for gold is very small. A withdrawal of only \$5,000,000 in two months would not suffice, even though the present retirement of legal tenders, which has averaged over \$1,000,000 per month since Dec. 1, should continue. But the Secretary wisely makes no announcement of a desire to sell more than it is clear that he can sell without depressing the market price, and he retains power to increase sales if the condition of the market should favor and if the situation in this country should permit a more rapid withdrawal of notes. The step is tentative. It is a beginning, and in the right direction. We do

not doubt, and believe that the commercial community will not doubt, that the Secretary will proceed with prudence and good judgment.

THE CITY OF BRUSSELS.

The opportune meeting of the City of Brussels with one of her sister ships has lifted a great load from the minds of the whole people. In vain the press echoed the protestations of the agents of the steamer that there was no cause for alarm, that the breaking of a shaft was one of the common accidents of the sea, and that every few months some one of our great transatlantic passenger vessels was almost certain to be detained weeks beyond her time by the derangement of the delicate machinery upon which her movements principally depend. In vain the friends of the missing passengers recalled the numerous instances of such mishaps, involving no worse consequences than an annoying delay. In vain they remembered that none of the incoming steamers reported storms, and that it was too early in the year to fear icebergs. In spite of all the good reasons to feel at ease, it is impossible to deny that the public had become deeply anxious; while the friends and relatives of the missing voyagers had begun to yield to the most poignant anguish. The good news flashed through the country on the arrival of the City of Richmond yesterday morning entered like the sunshine of happiness into many a mourning home. It will be many days yet before the disabled steamer can reach her destination, but apprehensions for her safety may now be dismissed. She is much better rigged than the average steamship, and has already proved herself an excellent sailer.

The course of her commander, however, in continuing the voyage under canvas, when the accident happened only a day and a half after leaving Sandy Hook, will occasion some surprise. The vessel was disabled 460 miles from New-York and 2,400 miles from Queens-town, that is, somewhere near the longitude of Halifax. If she had been put about, instead of keeping on her tedious course, many families would have been spared a week of suffering, the owners of the perishable part of the cargo would have saved a valuable shipment, and the pilgrims might have got to Rome in time for the celebration in which they sailed to take part. The human line, however, has the reputation of being well managed, and its captains know their business. It is only fair, therefore, to presume that there were good reasons for going on, which we shall know in due time. The passengers, at any rate, appear to be satisfied.

THE ALDERMEN AND THE CHARTER.

The Board of Aldermen, led by Mr. Purroy, have sent a committee of their august body to Albany to argue with the Governor against the Omnibus charter, which they pronounce “crude and unintelligible and in many particulars injurious to the best interests of our city.” Criticism upon the workmanship of the charter, coming from such a source, will demand attention if not respect, and indeed we have no doubt the delegation will make itself heard and felt at the State capital, because Purroy himself is going at the head of it. Purroy is a representative municipal statesman. As an individual he may not be modest, or useful, or nice, but as a specimen of the abstract Tammany Alderman as distinguished from the concrete man he is perfect. If anybody is going to Albany to tell the Governor what our Democratic Aldermen think about a charter which cuts down their salaries, by all means let it be the frequent and pervasive Purroy. To him a bill which lops off a fragment from the absurd pay of the Common Councilman, even though it leave him the grossly extravagant allowance of \$2,000 a year, is “crude and injurious,” yet we suspect that it is perfectly “intelligible.” We are much mistaken in Purroy if he do not convince the Governor that in one respect at all events the tendency of the charter has been altogether in the right direction.

It should be well understood at Albany, however, just who the gentlemen of this City Hall delegation are and for whom they are qualified to speak. They are careful to describe themselves as the elect of the people, the true representatives of the desires of the voters, and the official spokesmen of “the local authorities.” They are none of these things. They do not know what the wishes of the people are. They are not in sympathy with any considerable portion of the intelligent and thinking public, and they have no commission to speak for any of the “local authorities” except the fourteen Aldermen, including themselves, who voted for their appointment. It is a hideous error to suppose that an Alderman who owes his position not to the free choice of his constituents but to the workings of the Tammany voting machine, represents the opinions and interests of anybody except the little knot of wire-pullers who caused his name to be printed on the regular ticket. As a general thing he and his constituents are quite ignorant of each other. The Alderman does not work for the people of his district because as a rule he owes them nothing and expects nothing from them. They do not make the nominations. They vote as they are bid by some unseen committee, and candidates of the Purroy stamp, having made it all right with these nominating powers, float into office on the tide of the party majority. When they tell us afterward that they have been “elected to represent the ‘people of the city,’” they talk humbug. They cannot believe in it themselves.

What they understand by an “injury to the ‘best interests of the city’” was curiously illustrated in the talk respecting the appointment of the committee. They had examined such of the provisions of the charter as appeared to them “intelligible,” and they discovered that in the process of retrenchment a number of Democrats were turned out of unnecessary offices, and the Aldermen were deprived of a part of their preposterous pay. We do not hear of any other objections which they ventured to make to the bill. The “injuries” to which it is hostile therefore are the interests of a score or so of tax-consumers. It has been a subject of loud complaint among tax-payers for several years that the city is piling up debt, constantly running behindhand, actually spending more than its income notwithstanding the steady and rapid increase of taxation. Unless there is a severe reduction in our outlay, municipal bankruptcy is only a question of time. But the moment it is proposed to consolidate certain departments of the government so as to get rid of offices that are not needed, and to retrench in other directions where we are spending more than we can afford, Mr. Purroy and his comrades solemnly resolve that the Legislature is “partisan,” and “selfish,” and “hostile to the ‘interests of our city,’” and off they go to Albany, to protest in the name of “the people” and “the local authorities.” We do not suppose they will do much harm. Other Democrats, of better character, have spoken in quite

other terms, and the Governor's action is not likely to be greatly influenced by such arguments as the intellects of the Aldermanic committee can bring to bear upon it.

A FALSE PROPHET.

Mr. George C. Gorham of California, Secretary of the United States Senate, disapprover of the President's policy. He thinks the President's oath of office bound him to suppress the Nicholls “insurrection” in Louisiana, and he is profoundly grieved that he did not do it. Mr. Gorham hopes the Republican party of California will not express any approval of either the President's acts or intentions, and remarks that he shall not consent to anything of the kind. If, in the face of his objection, they do approve, he predicts the defeat of the party in the State. So much for Mr. Gorham and his views. To understand how important his disapprobation is, and how accurately he represents the actual Republican sentiment of California, it is only necessary to examine briefly his political career in that State. His first important appearance in political life was as the Republican candidate for Governor in 1857. His popularity in his party was strikingly shown by the vote. The Republican majority of about 20,000 which his predecessor received disappeared entirely, and the Democratic candidate was elected by over 9,000 majority. This was so unusual a triumph that he retired temporarily from the State and became Secretary of the Senate. He opposed the nomination of Newton Booth for Governor, and subsequently for Senator, and his opposition has always been counted one of the elements of Mr. Booth's success in both instances. In 1875 Mr. Gorham, aided by Senator Sargent, succeeded in controlling the Republican State Convention and in nominating a simply grotesque candidate for Governor. Another brilliant success followed. The Republican majority vanished again and a Democratic majority of 30,000 took its place. Whenever he takes a hand in the leadership, the party is certain of defeat. Whenever he keeps in the background, success is easy and assured. Therefore, when this hero of defeats predicts that the approval of the President's policy will cost the party the State it is the best sort of evidence that the way to victory lies in ignoring his advice.

It does not need this array of evidence to prove that California Republicans support so magnanimous and generous a policy as that which Mr. Hayes is so successfully carrying out. It is a State in which party ties run loosely, and in which the leadership of a man with pure convictions and resolute purpose in their execution is hailed with enthusiasm. It was just this latter trait which enabled Senator Booth to split both old parties, and taking the better elements from each, build up his own party. Mr. Hayes is the same type of man, and is following out the same line of statesmanship. That Californians of all parties will support him heartily is the most natural course to expect; that they should do it after Mr. Gorham predicts they will not is inevitable.

A PASSION FOR LIBEL SUITS.

An emigrant member of the New-York bar, whose name need not be mentioned, was on account of his general bad character, some time ago, by order of the General Term of the Supreme Court, stricken from the roll of its attorneys and counselors. From this order the attorney appealed, but in the Court of Appeals it was confirmed, the late Judge Grover giving the opinion that the Supreme Court “has power to remove an attorney for good cause shown, by ordering his name to be ‘stricken from the roll of attorneys.’” It was further held that, “as a good moral character is one of the constitutional and statutory ‘qualifications essential to the admission of an attorney, so he may be removed when he ceases to possess such qualification.’”

This opinion was naturally reported, with the evidence in the case upon which it was based, in the newspapers, and afterward in the official volume. Now we learn that the disgraced person has brought actions for libel against *The Albany Evening Journal* for reproducing a part of the report, against the official reporter for making it, and against the publisher for printing it, in each suit fixing his damages at \$1,000,000. This preposterous demand of course throws an air of ridicule over the whole case; nor would it have been thought worthy of this mention if it did not afford a timely illustration of the folly and unfairness of holding as responsible those who simply print facts for the information of the public. In this case the publication was under the sanction, and partly induced by the express direction, of the highest judicial authority of the State. A newspaper, too, might surely reprint with impunity the opinion of the Court of Appeals. If this cannot be done with safety, what can be done so at all?

These are questions which it may be unnecessary to put, but there are conclusions from them which are not so palpable. If with an intent of guarding the community from the practices of this person a newspaper had said of him what was afterward said by the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, would he be deemed as responsible for the information of the public, and trusting, in any emergency, to the good sense of courts and juries.

Some one writing recently to a Western publication has been gathering facts to show that the marriage of literary folks, instead of being inharmonious, as such marriages are usually thought to be, are, in this country at least, exceptionally happy. He cites Hawthorne, Emerson, Holmes, Bancroft, Motley, Lowell, and many native authors younger and of less note to sustain his position, and really makes out a very strong case. The opinion that discontent generally results from the union of literary artists has doubtless been accepted, with very few data to confirm it. The examples of Byron, Balzac, Dickens, and a few others, which really prove nothing, have been quoted again and again, while the continual peace and felicity of Wordsworth, Tennyson, the Brownings, and scores of poets, historians, essayists, and philosophers that might be cited, are allowed to pass unnoticed. Every coal-mining trouble of celebrities is pretty apt to be observed and paraded, while the discord and separation of persons not blessed—or cursed—with fame are never known. If the truth could be ascertained, it would probably be found that poets and scholars are quite as comfortable in matrimony as cobblers, tailors, tinkers, or other mortals presumed to be nearer the dead level of prosaic existence.

An engraving in the last number of *Nature* reproduces the face of the French transit medal. The Paris Academy of Sciences presents one of these medals to each of its members, and to each of the Frenchmen who were engaged in observing the transit of Venus. The design is by M. Alphonse Dubois. It is singularly spirited, graceful, and appropriate. Apollo stands in his chariot holding the reins of four horses abreast;

Venus is approaching him, and is evidently about to pass before him. His attention appears to be attracted by her approach, and the consequent turn of his head gives a three-quarter view of his face. Below, Science sits, holding in one hand a pair of compasses, in the other a roll of parchment; she is watching the performance. The heads of both females are in profile. The figures of the god and goddess are nude. The field of view is everywhere crossed by rays that emanate from a circle around the head of Apollo. The inscription on the face is *Qui distans spatia sidera, juvenia docet*; on the obverse is *Institut de France, Académie des Sciences. Passage de Venus sur le soleil, 8-9 Décembre, 1874.*

PERSONAL.

Thomas Minton established his famous China

manufactory just 70 years ago.
Mr. E. E. Hale says that the first poem on the Old South Church was composed by Ben. Franklin.
Edward S. Rand's estate, “Glendale,” at Dedham, has been sold at auction for \$100,000 to the mortgagee.
The mortgage is for \$58,000.

W. D. Boone, a grandson of Daniel Boone, is now living in Santa Clara Valley, California. He was born in Ohio and went to California in 1849.

Miss Sweet, late the renowned Pension Agent in Chicago, is trying to secure the office of Pension Agent of Illinois. The Chicago magnates have given her letters of recommendation.

The Duchess Marie of Edinburgh has been attending a special service held for the success of the Russian army now in the field against Turkey. It is said that in the event of any unforeseen contingency arising out of the present hostilities, the Duchess is to remain in England—she is a very accomplished diplomatist.
A part of the speech of Webster in reply to Lincoln, written out by Webster's own hand, has been added to the collections of the Boston Public Library. This is bound with Mr. Gale's shorthand notes of the speech, and with the original copy of these notes written out in part by Mr. Gale and his wife, and revised by Webster.

A field-glass which belonged to “Stonewall” Jackson is now in the possession of Mr. J. L. Bechtel of Schenectady, Lancaster County, Pa. The glass, which was made in England, is of peculiar construction and is covered with sharp, jagged, and irregular cracks. The surgeon of Gen. Jackson's staff valued it to keep it as a relic, but was not permitted to do so. Mr. Bechtel values the relic very highly, and has refused very liberal offers for it.

Ex-President Grant held a two hours' reception at the Union League Club-house, Philadelphia, on Saturday afternoon, the guests being introduced by ex-Secretary Florio. After the reception Gen. Grant, in company with Gov. Hartranft and his staff, Mayor Stockley and other prominent citizens, reviewed the 1st Regiment of Infantry, National Guard of Pennsylvania, which paraded before the club-house. Another reception will be held at Independence Hall to-day. On Tuesday Gen. Grant will visit the Water Works and the Fairmount Park and attend a banquet at Belmont Mansion.

Miss Louise Bertin, daughter of Bertin, sr., minister of Edward and Armand Bertin of the *Debate*, has just died in Paris. She was the composer of the music of “La Esmeralda,” the opera whose libretto was written by Victor Hugo. He was not liked by the *Debate*, and it is said that when he offered to find Miss Bertin the libretto of which she was in search, it was on the condition that that journal would not attack the public; the fourth act alone was successful, Massol obtaining it much against the will of the *Debate*, and the *Debate* was thus forced to publish it. This fourth act was afterward turned into a spectacle with a ballet.

The widow of George Herwegh, the German revolutionary poet, who died in exile a couple of years ago, is now living in London at Eton-house, where she is trying to make her way by teaching. Though recognized as one of the most accomplished women of Germany, she finds great difficulty, it is stated, in obtaining pupils, because the society of the place fails to near the disapproval of the government authorities by receiving or encouraging her. When Herwegh made his triumphant tour through Germany, in '42, as the poet of freedom, the King of Prussia sent him to say, “Let us be good enemies,” but his after poems made the persecution of him so bitter that the posthumous collection of his “New Poems,” recently issued, has been authorized by the “Neue Gedichte” has been issued by a German publisher at Milwaukee for the benefit of Herwegh's wife.

Provest Bressant Worms and Madeline Brohan, the famous artists of the *Theatre Français*, were at Baden about ten years ago and engaged to play “Tartare.” It was 5 o'clock on the evening of representation and the costumes had not arrived. What could they do? “It is simple enough,” said one of the actors. “We can't play without our costumes, and consequently we can't play.” “Let us see, nevertheless,” said Provest. “The public are generous, and it is better to play with our costumes than to be without them. We can then count absolutely on our indulgence. Why not play in modern dress?” “Oh, oh!” cried the others, “that's very daring, but we might try it. How should we dress?” “After the characters of Molière's personages,” said Provest. “I in *l'impudent*, dressed as a valet, and great *l'impudent* in the guise of a sexton in black coat and ‘Vaters’ in a black coat and white cravat.” “No,” cried the youngest of the troops, “since we can't have the right costumes let us meet the thing squarely and play, all of us, in white cravats and black coats. It's a difficulty the more, without doubt, but what a play for Molière and for us if we succeed! Let us try it.” And they did. For the first five minutes, dressed as valets, the audience which had been made, the audience seemed a little bewildered, and then rather tempted to laugh. In another five minutes, dressed as sextons, the audience seemed to be conscious of anything but the characters and their sentiments, true to all times and in all countries. In short, it was a veritable triumph for Molière, and the success was more than worthy the time never so well spent.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Secretaries Evans and Schurz and Gen. Sherman will accompany the President to New-York to-morrow.

TORONTO, Ont., May 12.—The Hon. Wm. A. Macdougall, ex-Premier of Nova Scotia, has been appointed Agent-General of the Dominion at London.

ELMHURST, N. Y., May 13.—The Rev. Dr. Henry M. Field of New-York will deliver the annual oration before the societies of the Elmira Female College at the commencement in June.

LONDON, May 13.—The Emperor William, after his return from Alsace, received the French Ambassador very kindly. The latter was authorized to express to President MacMahon the Emperor's good wishes for France.

NORFOLK, Va., May 13.—The Hon. R. W. Thompson, Secretary of the Navy, accompanied by a number of distinguished naval officers, arrived here yesterday morning. A committee waited on the Secretary and tendered him a reception by the city authorities, but he declined, as his stay would be brief. The Navy Yard was visited and inspected, after which the party took the 10 o'clock steamer for Washington.

POLITICAL NOTES.

It must be a wild to be a Democratic editor and be obliged to keep mad in such weather as this.

Let the politician abandon the still hunt for the office and go to raising beans, and the prospects of the Republican party and of the poor negro will look brighter to him.

It doesn't seem necessary to rap Jeff. Davis over the head every time he shows that he is not especially clever in his conduct above the surface. What he says is neither very wise nor very harmful, and would fall without notice or effect if the able editors would let it alone.

The Postmaster-General announces that the vacancy at Deadwood will not be filled, owing to the smallness of the appropriation for that service. What a perfect deluge of a trust the famous paragraphist must have had to drink up a year's appropriation in one week! So wonder the bonus was saved to write a letter.

Brigham Young won't be pushed into war; the Utah party refuse to be materialized; William Allen and Charles Francis Adams have retired from politics; Cronin is now a purely an ordinary humbug; Ben. Wade won't write any more letters, and the nephew of his uncle won't go to Italy all the time—truly this is going to be a dull summer.

It takes an unreasonable time for the politicians to realize that the President is looking out for the country and is letting the nation be ruled by itself. This is not the time when the Fatherhood is in mind when they create it, and like many other old-fashioned notions, it is extremely popular now.

The much talked of opposition to the President in Iowa is now coming down to the offices-seekers and Congressmen, and even then no names are given. We are told the words are full of men filled with the “greatest apprehensions,” but they refuse to come out. Secretary McCarty says the whole opposition party in Iowa is confined to the wire-pullers.

Now we are told that the President went back to Washington deeply chagrined at the coolness of his reception in Philadelphia; that ex-President Grant attracted much more attention, and finally, that the latter pretended to have chills in order that he might humiliate Mr. Hayes by staying away from his reception. All

of this news is sold for three cents. It is simply dead

What does it mean? Two or three Republican newspapers in the interior of this State have been overwhelmingly convinced within a week that the President's policy is bound to fail and to smash the party all to smithereens. One would think from reading the articles that the writers of them were holding the party back from ruin by main strength. Let go, gentlemen. The party hasn't started on that road yet, and when it does start it will be on a different one.

Senator Gordon of Georgia is destined to have a lively fight 18 months hence, when his successor is to be chosen. His disposition to act like a man of sense instead of like a donkey in his treatment of the President has stirred up the Bourbon against him, and his reflection will depend upon the strength of the liberal portion of the Georgia Democracy. He is supported by the same element which elected Mr. Hill, and the other wing is making even more noise now than it did when Mr. Hill was Governor.

GENERAL NOTES.

Christian Ross, father of the lost boy, had a long conference with P. T. Barnum at Bridgeport last Saturday. The great showman believes that if the boy is still living he can effect his restoration, and with Mr. Ross's consent will accept a reward of \$10,000, “no questions asked.” It is a dull public that does not understand how Mr. Barnum will get his money back if he finds the boy.

The Duchess of Edinburgh attended on April 29, in the Russian Church, London, a special service, during which prayers were offered for the success of the Russian army. She was received at the church by Count Schouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador, and the members of the embassy in military uniform. When the Te Deum was chanted, the priest presented the jeweled cross to the Duchess, who kissed it, as did nearly every one else in the church.

Commenting upon the broken truss in the New-York Post-Office, the defective thread in the Washington flag, and the collapse of the Rockford Court-house, an exchange cautiously intimates that “American architects do not appreciate the gravity of their business.” Quite so. Some of them make no allowance for the action of gravity. They hang tons of masonry in nothing, and are amazed when something falls. Their working model is Niagara's collar, and as for a sewer, a sewer is a sewer, and is generally recognized as a great public undertaking.

The great sea-serpent was stranded at Olán, Scotland, on April 26. The boatmen headed him off, the fishermen fired at him, and the natives stood on the beach and gazed. Finally he ran aground in front of a hotel, and as his tail swept the beach and slung pebbles in all directions, smashing windows and penetrating heads, the natives retreated in panic. Finally a gunner named Walter Macdonald shot and killed the monster's head, and the creature was carried to the shore. The sea-serpent was then measured. He was 101 feet long and 11 feet in circumference at the thickest part. Had a pair of fins 4 feet long by 7 feet across at the sides, and a dorsal fin 12 or 13 feet in length; had small, elongated eyes, and 2½ feet long, and 1½ inches wide. This is the most complete record for the British Museum.

Judge Pillsbury of Pontiac, Ill., decided on May 9 that the directors of a public school have a right to dictate what books shall be studied and used, and hence can order the Bible to be read as a text-book in connection with other studies. The decision was rendered in a suit brought by a Roman Catholic, who had instructed his son to pay no attention when the Bible was read in the school, but to go on studying his lessons without making any unnecessary disturbance. Attendance during the religious exercises was not required; any pupil whose parents objected to the Bible-reading could stay away, but the regulations required all who were present to lay aside their books and pay attention. This was suspended from the school in consequence of his behavior, and the judge justified the action of the school.

The English are becoming a nation of practical jokers, much as they despise the vulgar talent. A highly respected member of the civil service, who is a well-known author and holds an important position in the House of Commons office, recently received a communication inviting him to proceed to Constantinople and take upon himself the task of organizing the newly-constituted Turkish Parliament. The official consulted the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Earl of Rosebery, and finally decided to accept the proposition. He wrote to the Turkish Embassy accordingly, and to his astonishment received a letter stating that the English ambassador was to be the only living creature which thrives in the place. Their evanescent claims around all night long in the wind